FBI-King, Section 20, Serial 2322 only, the first of three volumes compiled by Hester

crime scene charts 3-7

The opening two pages say it is a whitewash, to the degree dared. Dated 4/17/68. The two synopsis pages bear the same date. The period covered is 4/8-16. While there need be no connection, the time coincides with the filing of the B'ham conspiracy charge and the identification of Ray, whose name was picked up before the official announcement of it, as earlier notes show and identify the source as.

mac on 4-5 family pages

There is a series of reports on rooming-house people, with Stephens contradicting himself on the same day and virtually no support for the official account when even the FBI prepared the versions. Most were drunk or otherwise incapable of being witnesses.

The next section, on the Lorraine, begins with a long Harrell McCullough report, 6 pages. We are to believe that with him as eyewitness he was not interviewed until 4/11/68, the date of this interview/ He is used tobuild a case for the shot coming from the bathroom when there is obviously no basis for the opinions. However, he also smelled gunpowder, not likely with a shot from the inside of a building 200 feet away.

Almost all place the shot as coming from the bushes, not flophouse.

Bailey, initially, not even asked for guest list

No reference to any Lauraders present at motel, any protection, no interview with Kyles and many others. Not one of press.

47-70 Persons at Canipe's: Canipe-no screeching of tires. Note false emphasis on cars and white Mustang and on wrong deputy. Compare with Charnley as described by Hester himself.

71-74/75-7 Harrell Finley some parts of story impossible, some clearly confabulation, especially on time. Julius L. Graham: Hist story consistent with package being dropped before shot. Same impossibility as Harrell Finley's - the deputies did not see the large package until Canipe called their attention to it.

Edwin Reisenbeiger Nothing.

Fire station:

Charnley:Not interviewed until 4/16 if this is first report. Initial account other than Charnley's of where he was. Black detective announced King shot. Lauders scaled wall. This report is rearranged to make it appear that he was a long time getting to Canipe's. He did use walkie-talkie to report finding package. Also has him saying Canipe saw fleeing white Mustang at high rate of speed. Before Dellahite got there Douglass did. Douglass double-parked their Tac 10 stationwagon and "aided in guarding the evidence." Charnley's estimate of total elapsed time to himself "he discovered" the package "was no more than 2 or 3 minutes."

Vernon Venard Dellahite: He went over the wall and ran around the block. He saw the package. His account, of running, is contrary to the version attributed to Canipe. It actually has him saying that when he got to the parking lot (here referred to as an area of "large outdoor signs") that there was no "area" in which anyone could "conceal himself." The deliberateness of this falsification is apparent, the seriousness obvious. It is a fair interpretation that by the 11th, the day of the interview, the FBI was deliberately hiding this. They go farther and make it appear impossible for anything to have happened in that area. The entrance to the parking lot, never identified as an evergreen parking lot, is referred to as "the driveway."

Fire Terrence N. Lauders:The report has him saying that someone at the Lorraine said the shot came from the second-floor windows. Not one report of those interviewed says that.

Fireman Charles Elvin Stone:He was looking and saw King hit. ~~Indistinct~~ This report dated 4/11. Of the shot, "he thought it came from the parking lot north of the fire house."

Police Lt. George W. Loesnecke:He was "looking through a peephole in a newspaper...and with him was a Negro police officer, Officer RICHMOND, and another fireman named William King." Richmond called out that King was about to leave. Loesnecke looked. What follows is very important:"Individuals by the name of BABY JESUS and Reverend BEVEL were standing to the extra right of Dr. KING. Loesnecke stated that as Dr. KING turned slowly to his left to say something to the individual below was when the shot was fired. Loesnecke advised that

that it appeared to him as though Dr. KING was looking at something or someone that fired the shot."

This and the other relevant reports all fit. The shot came from theparking lot. King had turned to his left, which had him facing the parking lot, not the flophouse.

Lounsbke told the others King had been shot.

More, after telling the others that King had been shot "he went out the front door of the station onto Main Street, but he did not observe anyone running on Main Street or any pedestrian traffic whatsoever. ...did not see a white Mustang on Main Street... nor did he hear the sound of an automobile leaving in a hurried manner."

"Approximately 30 seconds after the shot had been fired, a Negro male appeared on the balcony, and started taking photographs of Dr. KING's body." (Loun?)

"LOUNSBKE advised that . . . the shot that was fired came from the left of the fire-house and from a position which could not be seen from the window from which he was observing Dr. KING." Not interviewed until 13 and a eyewitness of police rank.

Ptn Barney G. Wright: In Tac 3 unit of 3 vehicles, four men in each. He was sitting in lounge. e did not hear shot but did hear rattling of window. (From shot inside a distant building?)

This interview, of 13th, has others of emergency squad calling out what not one report says, that shot came from rooming house. It then has Wright getting into squad car with Douglas, who broadcast the fact to headquarters, with this cute addition: "He does not remember seeing any officer near Canipe's Amusement Center, 424 Main Street, at the time he and Patrolman DOUGLAS got into their emergency unit." It would have been impossible because the fire house is set back from the street and the street bends away from the line of necessary vision at that point. This is I think intended to undermine the Ghormley story. This is carried farther when he had circled the block going south first. He says it took only 2-3 minutes but even then "he does not recall seeing any officer near Canipe's..." He was assigned to the Ghormley and Douglas unit.

Fireman William Bishop King: Interview 4/13. While he was on 7 a.m. 24-hour duty that day "two officers of the Memphis police force had been on location in the fire station conducting a surveillance of the KING party from a door to the rear of the fire station." Chalres Stone is a black cop. "...he thought the shot came from his left.

Ptn William B. Greene: Interview 13. He was on phone to sick wife, broke off, did not jump wall, run to Main St. where he saw two police officers and a deputy sheriff, at Canipe's. He then stood guard in front of Canipe's. He was there from within 2 or 3 minutes "until the investigation was completed." Packing lot gate was open. Locked whil,e he was on guard.

No Richmond. No ref. to Reddit.

Others in Vicinity: Charles Huxley. Interview 4.5. Wife Peggy, same day. Ditto Elizabeth Copeland. Ditto Mrs. Frances B. Thomason. But all have a white car, maybe Mustang, in front of Canipe's with a man sitting in it an hour and 15 minutes of more before the crime. David Harrison Owens, also 5, also Seabrook Wallpaper, nothing at all but on 5.

Persons at Jim's Grill: George Rowland Harding, 4/12/68. Robert D. Wheeler, 4/12. Franklin Wilson Ray, Jr., 4/12: one of the cars near Canipe's he recognized as the white Fairlane of Jimmy. Walker. In front was Jowers white Cadillac. Annie Lee Dabney, waitress, 4/5. Harold P. Parker, 4/15. These six are hardly all. Where is Jowers? And all the others who reported a white Mustang in front of Jowers' car and when it was gone-before the crime?

Other Persons Who Had Contact With Unknown Subject: Six pages on Ralph Carpenter and Corda York, 4/5 and 4/16. There is on 4/16 what can be a hesitant identification of a alt picture - after it was in thepapers, as this report does not say.

Oliver Nexall: two interviews with Mrs Peggy Barnes, 4/4, 4/11. Said kit little before noon 4/3. She did not work on 4th.

Rebel Motel, 14 pp. Anna Christine Kelley, 4/11,4/8. Mrs. Henrietta Macnamara,4/11. Sara Levinson, 4/11. Mrs. Sadie Moore, 4/10.Ivan Webb, 4/11. Victor Bennett, 4/11. Sadie McKay, 4/11. Sam H. Hudson, 4/11. Becky Anders,4/11. Judy Gant,4/15.(Gendritus)

Physical Evidence and Photographs: 4/4-5. List of items SA Robert Fitzpatrick got from Zachary and delivered to SA Robert A. Frazier 5:10 a.m. 4/5, at lab in DC.
4/6 These items, including windowsill, that Fitzpatrick delivered to SA James Cadigan at Document Section lab in D.C. 9:55 night 4/6. Separate report on slug for 4/4-5. 4/9, Fitzpatrick on sending New Rebel registration, etc.
4/4 list [illegible]ing's clothing, etc., made available for FBI inspection. Key to Room 307 (p.153)
4/5, p. 154, removal of windowsill.
4/4, p. 155. Room 5B searched 7:15 p.m.
4/4, p. 157, receipt re DA's search of 5B
4/11, 4/10 (two, in this order) pp. 162-170, list 62 pictures scene crime, 1-17 by Homicide Bureau, other MPD, photographers' names obliterated. 18-30 Kinghs body, at hospital. 31 begins those taken 4/5. 32 shows fire station looking east (removed bushes there?) 33 ten.
4/11 on aerial pix. 171
Autopsy findings: 174-185 (last not numbered). Seems to be identical with what was used in extradition

pp 3-7, charts of crime scene

15. Reason Ray did not take first room given' he did not want to pay extra for cooking, etc when he would not be eating in.

21. Stephens not even in thehall at the time the man ran out.

29. Grace said shot was from outside, frontsent (?)

30 Reeves is quoted as saying he had no way of knowing the "exact location" from which the shot came. The general location he did know and told me- parking lot.

42-7 McCullough. He had just returned, parked car, was south of King looking north, saw him fall backward and then looked to west and"saw no one nr either on the ground or in any of the buildings which face east toward the Lorraine..." Jesse Jackson was in doorway of what has to be 307 looking over King's body at flophouse window. McC. first to reach body, tried first aid. (Some description of wound that was visible on 45.) Conjecture that is not reasonable attributed to him to make it appear shot came from flophouse at bottom of 45. He smelled gunpowder, "similar to the oder which one smells when a firecracker is exploded." Certainly not from a shot inside a building 200 feet away. Says he remained until 8 p.m. but makes no reference to any police questioning. No reference to Kyles.

48-9 Abernathy. "...stated that judging from the sound of the noise it appeared that the shot came from directly in front of the door and not from any great distance."

51-4 Solomon Jones. Kyles is Kizer (phon) and dinner was to have been at 5 from what Jones had been told, or what Kyles told me.
On entering 306 King told Jones to start car. He did. Signal to assassins?
Car parked in front of 207. Jones a little to south of King? King facing west, Jones facing east. Saw shot hit and King fall backward.
He has Jackson standing at 305 door. Eskridge standing by Jones at time. He and Eskridge turned west "since that was the direction in which the shot had originated." Not northwest. "...he looked opposite the point where he was standing...a large retaining wall..grassy area with some small shrubs and pushes...behind some buildings...He got a quick kmk glimpse of a person with his back toward Mulberry Street...approximately 60 feet from where he was standing..." saw above waist only.
He drove Andy Young and Bernard Lee to hospital.
Note no funny-business with a white sheet covering on man as was later attributed to him.

Note to self: other interviews obviously called for an missing are of Lane, Earl Caldwell, Josephine Caldfield

55-7 Bernard Lee in 206. Time crime he was standing at bottom north steps to balcony. He was looking at two women helping when he heard shot. It "came from accross the street in front of Dr. King's room. ..." He is certain, cited military experience. "Rev. LEE stated he immediately looked toward the buildings which were to the west of him but aid he did not see anyone in any of the winsows. ..." If immediately it would have been impossible for one to extricate himself from that window-bathtub situation by them.

58-9 Andy Young. In 209. Confirms directions to Jones to start motor. "...observed police officers coming from the area where he t ought the shot may have come from..." He described this as "a large clump of bushes...opposite the area where Dr. King's room was located." He went farther, in even this FBI version, explaining that "he would not have been able to observe a flash from a gun being fired" from there because of the swimming-pool wall, actually a wall along the street, Lorraine side.

60-61 Coolar Shavers, Lorraine maid, on 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m. shift. On hearing the sound she was walking along the balcony. This is the way the FBI angles what she said:"She advised that she looked in a northwesterly direction toward some business buildings where she believed the sound came from. She stated that she did not see anyone, and definitley did not see anyone in the bushes on the west side of Mulberry Street nor did she see anyone running away from these bushes."

This interview was delayed until 4/12, when the FBI knew what it was working around, had to hide to stick with the flophouse frame and the planted evidence.

[illegible]

She was about in front of 304 when she heard the shot. Her attention was first attracted to the "people beginning to assemble," directly below. From that point she could not have looked very much to the northwest because the part of the motel along Mulberry and running from there to the balcony blocked vision. She might have been able to see the flophouse bathroom window but it would hardly have been northwesterly. Much closer to west. And all this report talks about is the bushes in that immediate area, from where she was "on the west side of Mulberry Street." This does not and cannot relate to those in the vicinity of the parking lot.

My own pictures will disclose whether she could have seen the bathroom window. Her statement can be probative on that but not on bushes toward which she did not look. The added "definitely" is the FBI propaganda.

62 Walter Bailey. He says that King had stayed there a dozen times. He was not asked for the guest list from this 4/4 report, an obvious need. If he later provided it the FBI managed to omit it from this volume of basic evidence.

67ff is the Canipe section. By going over this with care it is possible to make out a case that the getaway car could have been a white mustang parked there if not in the parking lot but the case that it was Ray's cannot be made from it.

In the first two Canipe pages it is made to appear that Canipe saw thepackage and the Dellahite simultaneously. However, this is not what it says and in fact is not what Canipe says. It is semantical evidence of the FBI's manufacture.

Says his car 1952 red station wagon. Police report says pickup. (Grass?)

74ff Finley is uncertain whether speeding Mustang came from street parking space at Canipe's "or whether possibly it pulled away from a parking space farther south of this point." This includes the parking lot.

83 Dellahite. The FBI uses this in an effort to make Charmley's account, which eliminates Ray and the bathroom. Compare with summary, Charmley there first.

87 Pfc Landers searched ground around flophouse for footprints only.

89-90 Fireman Stone says Richmond among named police in surveillance operation and that the shot came "from the parking lot located north of the Fire Department."